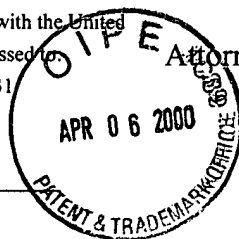


#4

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 on 4/13/00

PATENT Attorney Docket No.: 018547-037510US

By: 



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

David J. Balaban et al.

Application No.: 09/397,494

Filed: September 15, 1999

For: COMPUTER BASED METHOD FOR  
PROVIDING A LABORATORY  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT  
SYSTEM

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 2771

PETITION TO EXTEND TIME

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

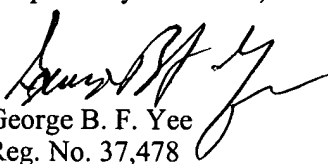
Sir:

Applicants petition the Assistant Commissioner of Patents to extend the time for response to the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application dated October 6, 1999 for four months, from January 6, 2000 to April 6, 2000. An appropriate response in the form of a Response to Missing Missing Parts is enclosed herewith.

Please charge the fee of \$1,360.00 to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to the above deposit account. This petition is submitted in triplicate.

04/07/2000 MMARMOL 00000146 201430 09397494  
02 FC:118 1360.00 CH

Respectfully submitted,

  
George B. F. Yee  
Reg. No. 37,478

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
Tel: (650) 326-2400  
Fax: (650) 326-2422  
GBFY:cmm / PA 3061718 v1